

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of applying an ink-phobic coating to an ejector of an ink jet printhead, comprising:

applying the ink-phobic material to an outer surface of the ejector, wherein the ejector comprises one or more openings through which ink is expelled or ejected, and

drawing the ink-phobic material through the openings of the ejector to coat an interior of the ejector with the ink-phobic material, wherein a vacuum draws the ink-phobic material through the openings of the ejector.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of applying an ink-phobic coating to an ejector of an ink jet printhead, comprising:

applying the ink-phobic material to an outer surface of the ejector, wherein the ejector comprises one or more openings through which ink is expelled or ejected, and

removing from the outer surface of the ejector an excess of the ink-phobic material applied thereto, and, subsequent to the removing step,

drawing the ink-phobic material through the openings of the ejector to coat an interior of the ejector with the ink-phobic material.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the removing excess ink-phobic material from the outer surface of the ejector comprises wiping the outer surface with a doctor blade.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising heating the coated ejector to dry or cure the ink-phobic material.

5. (Canceled).

6. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 5~~claim 1, wherein the vacuum draws the ink-phobic material through the ejector with a force of about 10 to about 20 inches of mercury.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ink-phobic material is a solution comprising about 1% by weight to about 12% by weight amorphous fluoropolymer.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the amorphous fluoropolymer is a copolymer of perfluoro(2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxole) and tetrafluoroethylene.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein prior to applying ~~coating the ejector with~~ the ink-phobic material to the outer surface of the ejector, a primer is first applied to the ejector.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the primer is 1H,1H,2H,2H-perfluorodecyltriethoxysilane.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ejector comprises an aperture plate with apertures, wherein the apertures are coated with the ink-phobic coating.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 5~~claim 1, wherein the vacuum is applied to a back side of the aperture plate, and wherein additional excess ink-phobic coating is drawn through to the back side of the aperture plate.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the aperture plate has apertures on a front side of the aperture plate and the back side has openings larger than the apertures on the front side of the aperture plate.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the printhead comprises a liquid level control plate.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a contact angle of water on the ink-phobic coating is greater than about 70°.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 5~~claim 1, wherein a contact angle of water on the ink-phobic coating is at least about 40° after the heating and curing.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ink-phobic material is applied to an outer surface of the ejector by an air atomization spray device.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ink-phobic material is applied to an outer surface of the ejector by an air atomization spray device while the a vacuum draws the ink-phobic material through the openings of the ejector.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Canceled).

21. (Currently Amended) A method of applying an ink-phobic coating to an ejector of an ink jet printhead, comprising:

applying the ink-phobic material to an outer surface of the ejector, wherein the ejector comprises one or more openings through which ink is expelled or ejected, and, after completion of the applying of the ink-phobic material,

subsequently forcing the ink-phobic material through the openings of the ejector to coat an interior of the ejector with the ink-phobic material.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, wherein the subsequent forcing step comprises applying pressurized air to force ~~forces~~ the ink-phobic material through the openings of the ejector to coat the interior of the ejector with the ink-phobic material.